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July 28, 1997

**Inquiry Proposal for CALFED Program**

**Project Title and Applicant Name**

- **QUALITY ASSURANCE OVERSIGHT FOR CAL/FED PROGRAM PROJECTS**
- **STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

**Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives**

CAL/FED will be conducting, or authorizing, water quality studies involving microbiological, chemical and biological analyses. There is a need to assure that the data collected has a known level of quality and that level is sufficient to support any decisions by CAL/FED. The State Board Quality Assurance Unit can provide management and technical resources related to any quality assurance activities.

**Approach/Tasks/Schedule**

**State Water Resources Quality Assurance Unit provides technical and resource assistance to all CAL/FED projects.**

This level of participation by the Quality Assurance Unit provides to CAL/FED a single source for quality assurance technical assistance and resources. Management of routine quality assurance activities and the oversight of data quality issues would remain with the agency conducting the project, but when needed, each Project Manager could seek advice, or auditing and performance evaluation testing from a qualified staff person.

**Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED**

By allowing the Quality Assurance Unit to provide technical and quality assurance resources to all CAL/FED projects, CAL/FED can assure that all projects have available a known level of assistance and equal access to resources. There would be no risk, for example, that a particular project would not conduct pre-award auditing of laboratories or routinely assess laboratory performance. Consistency in technical information would be available to all, and tailored to the needs of CAL/FED.

**Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts**

Funding would be needed for three years from CAL/FED for the technical and resource management staff, and for any physical resources, such as performance evaluation test samples, requested by Project Managers. The total cost for this proposal is \$405,000. Costs for each year of operation are expected to be \$135,000 and are divided as follows:

**Quality Assurance Staff Person (1PY)    \$ 100,000**

**Contract Monies for Performance Evaluation Samples and Statistical Analyses**

Performance Evaluation Samples	\$ 30,000
Statistical Analyses	\$ 10,000

No third-party impacts are expected.

**Applicant Qualifications**

The State Board's Quality Assurance Program Manager (William Ray) is well qualified to conduct examinations and evaluations of data quality. The State Board Quality Assurance Program is responsible for overseeing data quality relative to both environmental studies and permit-based monitoring. Mr. Ray has 25 years of experience in environmental laboratory testing. This experience includes actual laboratory duties in the areas of drinking water and waste water testing for microbiological, chemical and radiochemical substances. In addition, Mr. Ray performed the duties of laboratory auditor and principal investigator for the State's environmental laboratory certification program.

**Monitoring and Data Evaluations**

This proposal does not provide for any monitoring or data collection. Those functions would come from those other CALFED programs that have such components. This proposal does provide for data evaluation to the extent that CALFED management deems them necessary. Since this proposal is for an oversight function, data evaluations will address the efficacy of each CALFED program's internal quality assurance practices, the overall level of data quality, and investigations into any questions regarding data quality that may arise.

**Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Compatibility with CALFED Objectives**

This proposal has no conditions that would require the need for support by a local organization or group. Coordination with the Department of Health Service's, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, and Sanitation and Radiation Laboratory; and the Department of Toxic Substance Control's Hazardous Materials Laboratory are part of this proposal. These State programs provide technical and resource support in the data quality evaluation process. This proposal is compatible with CALFED's objective of informed decisions based on reliable data.



**Cal/EPA**

**State Water  
Resources  
Control Board**

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## MEMORANDUM

I-086



Pete Wilson  
Governor

**TO: CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

*Gerald W. Bowes*

**JUL 28 1997**

**FROM: Gerald W. Bowes, Ph.D., Chief  
Standards Development Section  
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY**

**DATE: JUL 28 1997**

**SUBJECT: INQUIRY PROPOSALS**

Attached are four Inquiry Proposals responsive to the CALFED Program Request for Proposals (Category III, 1997), as follows:

1. **Water Quality Objectives for Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos**
2. **Pilot Project to Identify "Least Impacted" Aquatic Habitats in the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary for Future Development of Biological Criteria**
3. **Mitigation of Fecal Pollution Sources to Shellfish Growing Waters Within San Francisco Bay**
4. **Quality Assurance Oversight for CALFED Program Projects**

The first proposal (Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos) can be considered to be a full proposal because it addresses a significant need a complete project can be developed soon.

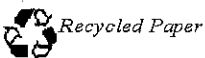
I have been given approval to send these proposals to you although management and Board Members have not yet had a chance to review them.

Please contact me at 657-1029 if you need additional information. Thank you for consideration of these proposals.

**Attachments (4)**

**cc: Jesse M. Diaz, Chief  
Division of Water Quality**

**Walt Pettit  
Executive Director  
State Water Resources Control Board**



*Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.*

**bc: Frank Palmer, Chief  
Ocean Standards Unit  
Division of Water Quality**

**Gail Linck, Chief  
Freshwater Standards Unit  
Division of Water Quality**

**Michael Perrone, Chief  
Technical Support Unit  
Division of Water Quality**

**Linda O'Connell, Environmental Specialist  
Ocean Standards Unit  
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**Linda Rao, Environmental Specialist  
Ocean Standards Unit  
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**Bill Ray, Program Manager  
Quality Assurance Unit  
Division of Water Quality**

**Syed Ali, Chief  
Planning Section  
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